





## Intimations.

CHOICE AUSTRALIAN WINES  
FROM THE CELEBRATED  
COOLALTA VINEYARDS,  
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE COOLALTA WINES which we are introducing here for the first time give an exceptional opportunity to Wine Connoisseurs to sample really HIGH CLASS AUSTRALIAN WINES of low alcoholic strength. COOLALTA WINES cannot be surpassed for their absolute Purity, High and Even Quality, Bouquet, and soft delicate flavor; and, being the natural product of the grape, they are specially recommended by the Medical Faculty of New South Wales. COOLALTA WINES have obtained the HIGHEST AWARDS at all the principal International Exhibitions of the World. A careful Analysis of these Wines was recently made by the Government of New South Wales. They were found to be PERFECTLY PURE, SOUND AND THOROUGHLY FERMENTED WINES. SAMPLES may be had FREE on application to Messrs. CALDECK, MACGREGOR & Co., Sole Agents for Hongkong. Hongkong, 4th February, 1897. [245]

## To-day's Advertisements.



IT TAKES SUCCESS TO MAKE SUCCESS.

and the secret of success "Is constancy of purpose." However things may seem, "No evil things succeed" and "No good thing" is a failure.

The continued Success of WILLISON'S CIRCUS.

is proof positive that it is a "Good thing" Audiences increasing nightly.

TONIGHT (MONDAY), The Sensation of the Century.

The Grand INTERNATIONAL TUG-OF-WAR

Open Competition to All Nations. \$200 CASH PRIZES.

Promises to be the greatest struggle for supremacy ever witnessed in Hongkong.

To all Contestants—Please apply as early as possible to-day for your Passes, as no one will be admitted without a Ticket. All competitors suitably attired with distinguishing flags must assemble not later than 8.30 P.M. at the Circus and report to the Manager.

THE TUG-OF-WAR will be preceded Every Evening by a Brilliant Programme of EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC and ACROBATIC feats by our Unrivalled Company of Sterling Artists.

Plan of Seats at ROBINSON'S.

WEDNESDAY, 17th February, 2-PERFORMANCES—At 4 P.M. PRIZES FOR THE CHILDREN.

THE AMERICAN RIDING MACHINE. Little Boys having a Free Ride on a Real Circus Horse.

Half-price for Children and Servants. WEDNESDAY EVENING, Special Engagement and Appearance of

ALMA—THE VIRTUOSE—WILLIS in the latest Parisian Innovation "LEGMANIA."

TO ALL CONCERNED. All our Artists and Employees are paid every Sunday Morning and all local accounts are settled every Monday Morning—till 12. If you have a claim against the World Circus real or imaginary, don't make it till the last day. Present it now or never. Be advised by

BERT WILLISON, Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [305]

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 225, E.C.

AN EMERGENCY CONVOCATION of the above CHAPTER will be held in the FREEMASON'S HALL, Zealand Street, on FRIDAY, the 19th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Companions are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [311]

BOOTHEN MARK LODGE, No. 264.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASON'S HALL, Zealand Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [312]

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE. The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense. J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [313]

## To-day's Advertisements.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. NOTICE.

I HAVE To-day RESUMED the duties of SECRETARY of the COMPANY. By Order, JAS. B. COUGHTRIE, Secretary. Hongkong, 15th Feb. 1897. [308]

## NAVAL CONTRACT, 1897-98.

SEALED TENDERS, in Duplicate, will be received by the NAVAL STOREKEEPER, H.M. Naval Yard, until 10 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, the 24th instant, on persons desirous of supplying the Undermentioned Articles for the Use of H.M. Navy for the year 1897-98:—

BISCUITS, RAISINS, SOFT BREAD, RICE, FLOUR, SUGAR, FRESH BEER, FRESH MILK, FRESH VEGETABLES, WATER FOR DRINKING, FRESH POTATOES, AND BOILERS.

Printed Forms of Tenders and further Particulars can be obtained at the Naval Storekeeper's Office. The right to reject the lowest or any Tender is reserved. Hongkong Victualling Yard, Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [309]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW. THE Company's Steamship

"HAI TAN," Captain J. S. Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 18th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [310]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU," Captain Innes, will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 19th instant, at Daylight.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [301]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR FOCHOW. THE Company's Steamship

"KALCAN," Captain Carnahan, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 19th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [313]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN (DIRECT). THE Company's Steamship

"KWEIYANG," Captain Osterbridge, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [327]

## Intimations.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & COMPANY, VICTORIA DISPENSARY, HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYVADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MEN'S and other Large Consumers.

Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager. Hongkong, 30th January, 1897. [497]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph," and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the free discussion of questions of public interest, it is requested that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS. Advertisements to be forwarded at an office intended for insertion in the Hongkong Telegraph, and not to the Editor, and to be retained the early publication of the paper.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.

The Hongkong Telegraph has the largest circulation of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and is therefore the best medium for Advertisements. Terms can be learnt on application.

The Hongkong Telegraph is published at the Telegraph Office, No. 1, Despatch Street, Hongkong.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent. Hongkong, 15th February, 1897. [314]

## Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

## WINE AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London House, bought direct at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted at the DISPENSARY before being sent out.

SHERRY—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner Wines of very superior Vintage. All are true Xeres Wines.

CLARET—Our Claret, including the lowest Price, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currants, as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY—All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure COGNAC, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY—All our Whisky is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY marked "S" is universally popular, and is pronounced by the best local connoisseurs to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our WINE and SPIRITS to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorized Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD. THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY. Hongkong, 15th September, 1896. [3]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1897.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

GREECE AND CRETE.

LONDON, February 13th.

Six hundred armed Cretans have sailed from Greece to Crete. Another torpedo flotilla is ready for sea.

THE GREEK NOTE TO THE POWERS.

The Greek note has been delivered to Lord Salisbury. It declares that Greece will prevent the landing of Turkish troops at Crete by every means in her power.

(From L'Aspet du Tonkin.)

THE DOCK STRIKE.

PARIS, February 7th.

The strike at Hamburg has terminated.

STEAMER ASHORE.

The British steamer City of Seville is ashore off the coast of Spain; there have been a great many drowned.

THE PLAGUE SPREADING.

PARIS, February 7th.

The bubonic plague has appeared at Kandahar. As a protective measure against the plague Russia has established a military cordon at Amoudaria.

FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

PARIS, February 8th.

The French Mission charged, at the request of the Chinese Government, with the management of the arsenal at Foochow, is about to leave France for the Far East.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Señor José de Navarro, Consul for Spain at this port, courteously informs us that he has received a telegram from Manila informing him that General Polavieja, the Governor-General of the Philippines, left Manila yesterday for the front to personally conduct the military operations in the provinces of Cavite, where the rebel are strongly entrenched.

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES.

Messrs John D. Humphreys and Son, the General Managers, inform us that they have received the following telegram from the Manager of the Co's mines in Australia:—

"Have struck Eureka reef at a depth of 200 feet; prospects are encouraging; removing Eureka Company's Battery alongside Olivers. The Mill will work night and day."

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Honorary Treasurer of the Indian Famine Relief Fund begs to acknowledge receipt of the following subscriptions:—

Already acknowledged:—

China Fire Insurance Co., £100

Leah & Orange, £100

M. J. D. Stephens, £100

C. J. Scheld, £100

C. H. Thompson, £100

Paul Jordan, £100

Royal Artillery Sergeants' Mess, £100

Req., £100

Total, £1,000

£25,420

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Mr. F. A. COOPER has been appointed Director General of the Public Works Dept. of Ceylon.

TRANG WAI was awarded six months' "hard" at the Magistracy to-day for the theft of two bales of cotton cloth, valued \$150.

A PROCLAMATION is published in the Gazette declaring that the fixed capital of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is \$10,000,000.

The returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ended Feb. 14th are:—Europeans, 205; Chinese, 3,910; total 4,115.

A CHINAMAN was fined \$75 with the alternative of one month's imprisonment for surreptitiously obtaining passage on board the steamship *Chingtu* from Moji to Hongkong.

KWONG SHING was charged at the Magistracy to-day with stealing a pair of gold rings and a jade stone. He admitted the theft and Capt. Hastings gave him six months' hard labour.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherland Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Fresh Fish Gull, \$30.

A MARINE Court will assemble at the Harbour Office at 10.30 a.m. to-morrow to enquire into certain charges of misconduct made against the second officer of the British barque *Torridale* by the master of that vessel.

An action in the Supreme Court to-day, Fow Loong v. Tam Chun and another for cost of goods supplied, resulted in a verdict being given for defendants. Mr. E. Robinson appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., for the defendants.

DR. YERKIN, in response to the invitation of the Government of India and with the permission of Mr. Hanotaux, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has left Tonkin with a large quantity of his serum and is due at Bombay on the 18th inst. He will at once render every assistance in his power to arrest the progress of the plague in that ill-fated city.

ACCORDING to the Meteorological returns for January issued by the Observatory the mean barometer reading was 30.10, thermometer 63.1, humidity 80, total rainfall 2.56 inches and total hours of sunshine 60.7. The temperature was 3.7 above the average, humidity 6 above, sunshine 4.6 hours below, and the rainfall 1.28 inches above the average.

THE Band of the West York Regiment will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess, Murray Barracks, to-morrow evening, commencing at 8 o'clock:—

1. Overture "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

2. Polka "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

3. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

4. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

5. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

6. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

7. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

8. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

9. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

10. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

11. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

12. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

13. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

14. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

15. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

16. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

17. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

18. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

19. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

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21. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

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46. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

47. Selection "The Rose Tree" Kall Ball

## THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

The 23rd ordinary meeting of the China Fire Insurance Co., Limited, was held at the offices, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at noon to-day.

Mr. St. C. Michaelson presided and there were also present Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple, A. McConachie, D. R. Sassoon, N. Stebb, G. Sharp and C. Beumann (Directors), J. L. Tomlin (acting secretary), J. B. Coughtrie, Roca Pálara, C. Palmer, P. Jordan, G. A. Carvalho, F. Gore, G. H. Roberts, Chay A. Fat, Hon. Wai Yek, S. H. Michael, J. Thiburno, G. C. Cox, J. H. Cox, H. M. Mehta, and Michael.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for over a fortnight you will no doubt now allow them to be taken as read. It gives us much pleasure to meet you with such satisfactory results for the year 1896, showing that after paying an *interim* dividend of \$3 per share in February last there remains a profit of \$151,048.64 to be dealt with on this occasion. This is in a great measure due to the loss rate on premiums having fallen from 91.64 per cent. in 1894 to 27.35 per cent. only for the year under review. We now propose to pay a final dividend of \$5 per share, but it is our desire to impress it most strongly on your minds that you must not consider the company in a position to distribute annually no less than 45 per cent. on its capital, and that it is only being done now in order to place our accounts, as far as dividends are concerned, on a sounder basis. After our experience with the 1894 account we could come to no other conclusion than that it was most decidedly inadvisable to pay *interim* dividends, and we have taken the opportunity as early as possible of altering our system, whilst not asking shareholders to accept a smaller dividend than usual in consequence of our action. You must recollect, however, gentlemen, that the only way this measure could be effected was by foregoing any substantial increase to our reserve fund, and therefore you must be prepared at our next distribution of profits to see that account added to materially to make up for the small sum placed to its credit on the present occasion, provided of course that the results will allow us to do so. As business men you will readily follow me when I say that a fire office cannot have too large a reserve fund, it being the security that your policy holders look to when they come to us, and, therefore, as long as we continue to pay the handsome dividend of 45 per cent. on our paid-up capital, your board are of the unanimous opinion that the best course to be adopted towards strengthening the company's position, as it goes without saying that the stronger we are the more confidence the insuring public will have in us. For the benefit of those not fully conversant with the business of a fire insurance office and who, in consequence, may fall to see the objection to *interim* dividends, I might explain that, taking our 1896 account as an example, the balance of \$67,104.11 brought forward is subject to diminution through losses and the whole of the policies for that year have run off, and therefore it is impossible to say what our actual profit will be until the 31st January next, and, such being the case, I think you will all agree with me when I say that it is not a sound or business-like principle to anticipate such profit by paying away in the shape of an *interim* dividend what has not been completely earned. Turning now, gentlemen, to the working account for the past year, we may well congratulate you on the excellent result to date. The balance brought forward bears a previous record by some \$25,000 and we can only hope that it will not suffer to any serious extent by losses between this and the end of the year. You will notice that premium account again shows a steady advance, and this time it stands higher than it has ever done before, in addition to which you must not lose sight of the fact that so much of our business is now done on net terms that we shall have less bonus to declare, and therefore the gain is still greater than it would appear to be upon comparison with the figures of previous years. The formation of tariffs, as mentioned at our last meeting, has extended during the past year, and with one or two exceptions they now exist in all parts of the Far East and work satisfactorily. Our gain in premium, you will be pleased to learn, is not due so much to an increase of business as to better rates, and consequently a marked improvement is shown without much extra liability being incurred. As regards interest account, we were a year ago in a position to show a further falling off, but you will have been glad to notice that the contrary has been the case. In fact this account has also reached a higher figure than in any past year, and this in spite of the lower rates now ruling. The increase can, however, be partly accounted for by the fact that we have reduced our fixed deposits and added to our mortgages and other securities and partly by the fact of our funds being larger than in 1895, and whilst on this subject it gives me much pleasure to inform you that our surveyors have recently reported on the properties under mortgage to us and we are fully satisfied that there is ample security against our loans. Of the other accounts I need only point out that the increase in commission account necessarily follows the gain in premium. It is, however, satisfactory to note on the other hand that our expenses have not grown larger but are in fact less than in







